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Lithuanian Emigre Affairs

(May, 1952)

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The attached report has been received from a casual informant, who is a Polish emigre with close contacts in Lithuanian circles.

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Lithuanian Emigre Affairs

(May, 1952)

1. A new Lithuanian Ex-Servicemen's Association was formed in Paris on the 11th May as a result of the recent negotiations to create a Federation of Ex-Servicemen from behind the Iron Curtain, who are at present in exile in France. This new Federation, the A.C.E.C.O.F. (Federation des Anciens Combattants exiles de l'Europe Centrale et Orientale en France) groups together Lithuanians, Poles, Ukrainians, Bulgarians and Hungarians and envisages the eventual inclusion of the other emigre nationalities. Up to now, the Lithuanians have been represented by Col. Lanskoronskis and Jonas Masulis, both of whom stated that they could only join the Federation as individuals as they were not representative of any Lithuanian Association of former servicemen.

2. This new Lithuanian Association, known as "Lietuviu Kovotoju Sajunga" (Union of Lithuanian Ex-servicemen) was therefore formed in order to give Lanskoronskis and Masulis a proper backing in the Federation, and in order to assist them in organizing a Lithuanian representation in the regional and district branches of the Federation, which are planned for the future. Lists of names of ex-servicemen in the provinces are to be compiled to give some indication where suitable material can be found at short notice in the event of a future war.

3. At present there are only seven members of the L.K.S. besides Col. Lanskoronskis who is Honorary President. The others are:

Working President.

V. Baranauskas.

Businessman. New third Lithuanian delegate to A.C.E.C.O.F. Formerly in Lithuanian Army.

Vice-President.

A. Zelny.

Factory worker. Formerly in French army.

2nd Vice-President.

J. Rusnecovas.

Factory worker. President of the Lithuanian Workers Section of the C.F.T.C.

Secretary-General.

J. Masulis.

Accountant. Member of the L.R.S.

Secretary.

Grigbertavicius.

Factory worker. Member of IRS. Formerly in French Army, wounded in Indo-China and is now 75% disabled.

Treasurer.

J. Vaitauskas.

Factory worker. Former Sergeant in Lithuanian Army.

Member.

Vaicekauskas, Jm.

Factory worker. Formerly in French army.

4. Of these seven, only Masulis, Baranauskas and Vaitauskas served in the Lithuanian army; the others were deported to France during the war by the Germans as reprisal measures for their resistance activities, and subsequently joined the French Army at the Liberation of France. 104

Recent Developments in V.L.I.K.

5. The Executive Committee of V.L.I.K. has made no further progress in organising its move to Paris. A flat has been rented for them near the Place Pigalle and appropriate comment has appeared in the press about the unusual choice of locality. Nothing, however, can be done as yet, as Prof. J. Vaminskas is seriously ill in the U.S.A. and no decisions can be taken in his absence.

6. (General) Pastikis, former Chief of the Lithuanian army and married to a niece of Smetona, is reported to be going to Pfullingen to deal with V.L.I.K.'s military affairs. He sympathises with the clericals but is considered by the Liberals a "serious" man. (Col.) Brinius is to work with the M.C.F.E. and Col. Sova is emigrating to the U.S.A.

7. Juozas Brazaitis is trying to organise a conference of all Lithuanian political parties in the U.S.A., but is temporarily hampered in his work by an attack of rumps.

Meeting of the diplomats in London.

8. A meeting was held recently in London between:

Lozoraitis.	Chief of the diplomats abroad.
Balutis.	Lithuanian Minister in Britain.
Zadeikis.	Lithuanian Minister in the U.S.A.

to determine the position of the diplomats in view of the projected move of V.L.I.K. to Paris, and to discuss possible means of finding some working compromise with V.L.I.K. The result of these talks are not known as yet.

Meeting of Lithuanian Associations in Paris.

9. A meeting was held in Paris on the 9th May of representatives of the twelve Lithuanian Associations in Paris. Each Association sent two delegates and the purpose of the meeting was to show the solidity of the Lithuanian emigration in France and to discuss the progress (or rather possible resuscitation) of the P.L.B. (Community of Lithuanians all over the World). The P.L.B. movement was started in France 3 years ago but many of the original Committee have now emigrated and no progress has been made to unite Lithuanian emigres from all countries, in the past two years. This joint-meeting was sponsored by the L.S.D.P. (Societe de Bienfaisance Lithuanienne en France), the most important Lithuanian social organisation in France. No decision was, however, reached about developing the P.L.B. movement.

not to be
discussed
further

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